

1972

ANOTHER GLORIOUS

VICTORIAN
ALLIANCE

HOUSE
TOUR

Sunday
24 October 1 - 5 PM

to benefit

THE WINDMILL
RESTORATION FUND
(lion's share)

and the
VICTORIAN ALLIANCE
(mouse's share)

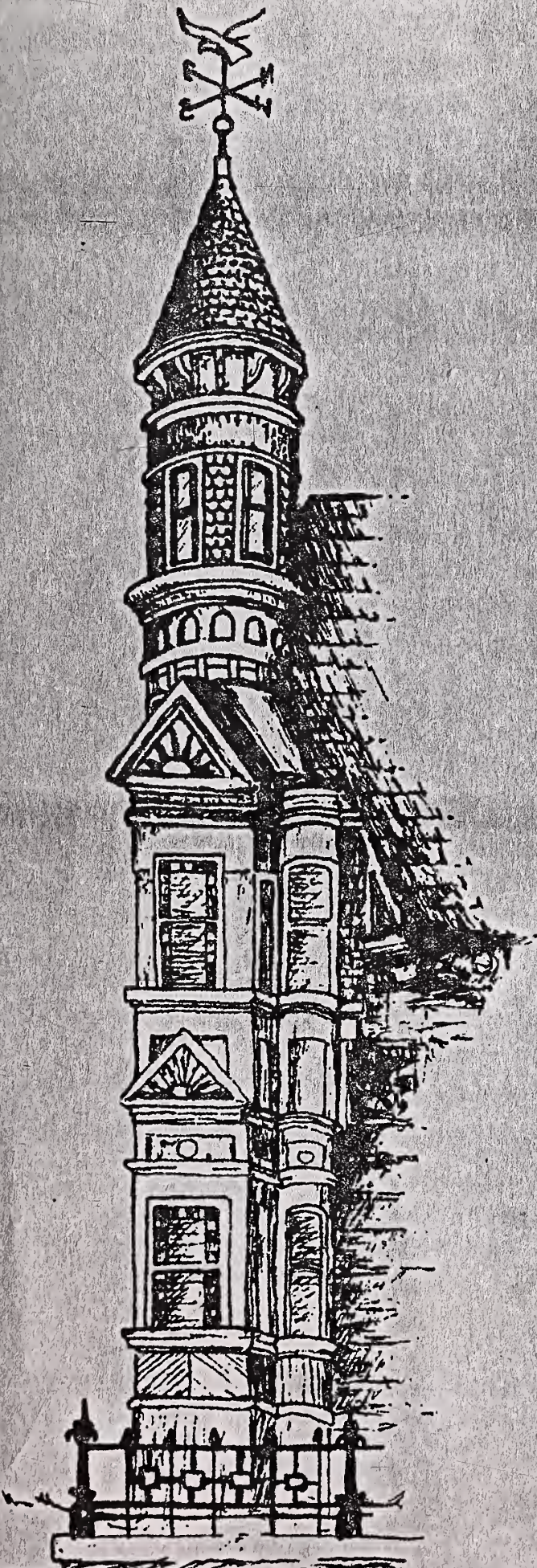
6 Victorians
in ALAMO
SQUARE

Tour starts at 1045 Scott Street
(between Turk and Golden Gate)

\$5.00 donation

1348 So. VANNESS
BUILT 1883

Churchware '73





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Welcome to the Victorian Alliance-Windmill Restoration Fund tour of Victorian houses in Alamo Square. The houses on this tour demonstrate the gamut of architectural and life styles which prevailed when Alamo Square was one of the most fashionable sections of the City. The neighborhood deteriorated badly after World War II, and the houses suffered extremely destructive usage. Restoration of the structures dates from the period, eleven years ago, when private fund-raising was also started to restore the derelict windmills in Golden Gate Park.

As a bonus, visitors on this tour will enjoy walking from house to house along the route which is designated on the map. It was selected for its variety of architectural styles which were popular when this area was developed, and strollers can savor the presently-favored colorful exterior decoration schemes.

The Windmills date from 1902 (Dutch) and 1905 (Murphy), which, at the time of its construction, was the largest in the world, with sails measuring 114 feet from tip to tip. Both supplied irrigation for Golden Gate Park. When electricity replaced windpower for pumping water, the windmills were allowed to deteriorate. An eleven-year campaign has nearly realized the \$250,000 restoration fund. With labor donated by Navy Seabees, the restoration project was officially commenced on June 27, 1976. The major portion of the proceeds from this house tour will be added to the restoration fund.

The Victorian Alliance recently celebrated its third anniversary. It is an organization whose members share an enthusiasm for the renovation and preservation of Victorian structures. The Alliance also participates in the Landmarks designation and preservation activities of the City. The organization meets on the last Wednesday of the month, enjoying lectures and demonstrations of renovation techniques and related topics. Everyone is welcome at the meetings. The Alliance is also compiling a reference file of resources ... craftsmen and materials pertinent to Victorian restoration. The Alliance shares this information with anyone who is interested.

For further information:

THE VICTORIAN ALLIANCE
4143 23d Street
San Francisco 94114
Phone: TAGBOOM

WINDMILL RESTORATION FUND
1541 Polk Street
San Francisco 94109
Phone: 474-2100

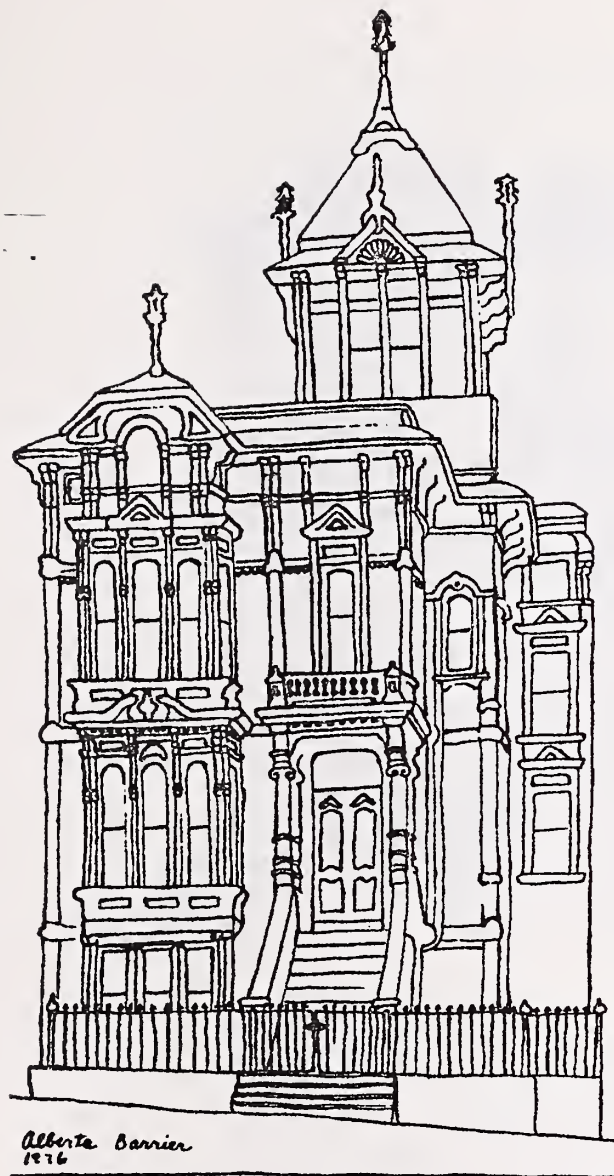


This house represents the original state from which most of the houses on this tour have been rescued. Built in the late 60's, the house was connected to the City water system on June 15, 1870. The owner of record at that time was John W. Nye, who was listed as a real estate agent in the 1871-72 City Directory, when the address was given as 1015 Scott Street. Variable street numbers are one of the most harassing problems which confront house researchers.

A classic flat-front Italianate, this house has its original wrought iron fence and gate. The apparent double front door is in reality a single door camouflaged as a double. The house went through a series of disastrous occupancies and had been condemned when the present owners bought it just a few months ago. Fortunately, the stair railing and the fireplaces, protected by multiple layers of paint, and not working, had not been destroyed.

Typical of the finds which are frequently concealed in the walls of these old houses are the two bottles, and the letter which is shown in enlarged photostat. We all trust that Percy found fulfillment, or something, in Fresno.

This house demonstrates the desirable practice of restoring one or two rooms completely in which it is possible to live in comfort, removed from the chaos of the rest of the house. If owners neglect to provide themselves with such havens of serenity where they can escape from the rest of the house, remodeling can become almost unbearable.



1198 Fulton

This grandly impressive Stick-Eastlake was designed by Heinrich Geilfuss and was built between 1875 and 1878. It is listed in the Almanach de Gotha for the years 1879, '80 and '81 as housing the Imperial Russian Consulate. City water department records show that water service was connected in 1889 for the then owner, William Westerfeld, who added baths, and the tower to the building at approximately the same time. Prior to this date, as in many houses in the City, a well on the property furnished water.

The owner from the mid-90's to 1928 was John Mahoney, builder of the St. Francis and Palace Hotels, and re-builder, after the Quake, of hundreds of San Francisco's notable buildings. Mahoney also built the flats to the east of the house on what had originally been the rose garden of the property.

In the mid-30's, the White Russians returned to the building to use it as a social center, when they installed a restaurant "Dark Eyes" in the basement ballroom. More recently the building has experienced a varied and sometimes bizarre occupancy thoroughly commensurate with its spectacular architecture. A magician who kept 500 candles burning continually once lived in the tower room when the house was a rooming house, prior to its purchase by the present owners.

The present interior furnishings are completely in keeping with the grand scale and elaborately carved woodwork of the rooms, resulting in an interior in the romantic aristocratic tradition of northern Europe prior to World War I.



This grandly ornamented high Italianate was constructed by builder John Hinkel as a one-family house for himself. Water service was connected December 15, 1877. The exterior wood trim of this house is of superb quality, both in design and execution, featuring pediments and broken pediments with magnificent finials, elaborate brackets and a purely decorative balcony over the front door with jig-saw work and very ornate finials.

The portrait of the present owner's great-great-grandfather, 1799-1829, dominates the double living room from its place over the front fireplace. This room is unusual in having two fireplaces (original) and two bay windows. Another family heirloom, the stool near the front fireplace dates c.1780. The plaster mouldings in this room are of a scale which is suitable for the size and formality of this room.

The house, which is presently undergoing restoration as a double-unit building, demonstrates the adaptability of spaces which older buildings permit when the original spaces have been well designed.

813 Grove



This house was built for John C. Mitchell, who is listed in the 1873 City Directory as an insurance broker with the Hamburg-Bremen Fire Insurance Company. It is described as a one-family house when the water service was connected on June 5, 1871.

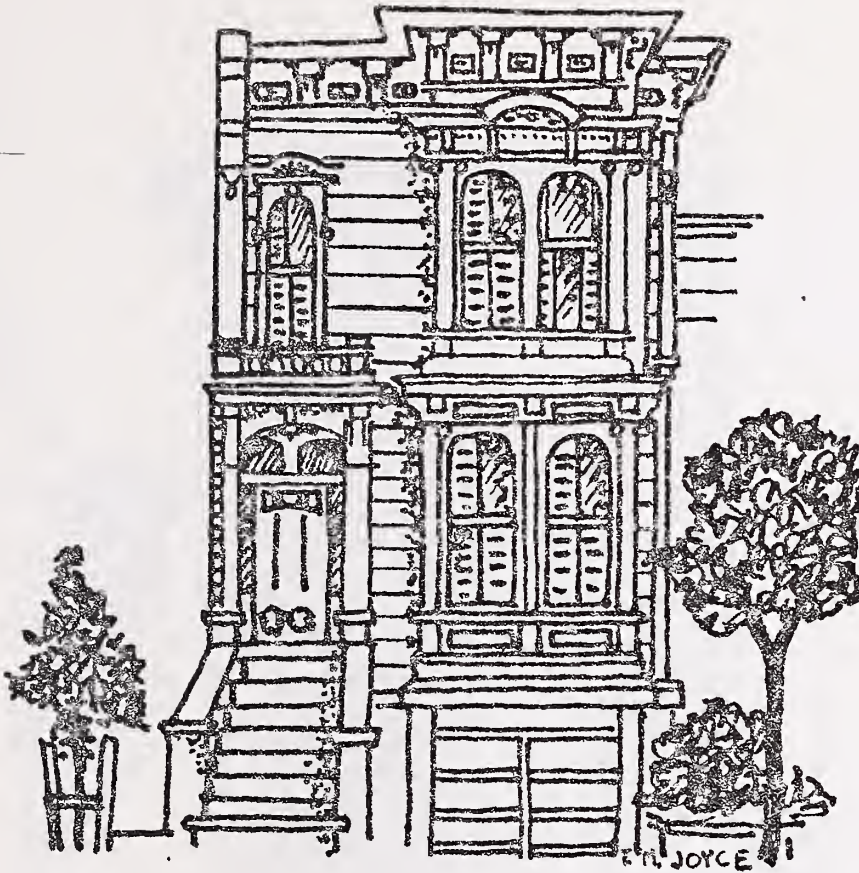
The exterior design combines Italianate and Second Empire details, with the

quoins and arches representing the Italianate, and the flattened segment arches being typical of the Second Empire. The exterior color scheme, while conforming to today's color preferences, is quite appropriate to the period of the house.

In entering the house, one is quite impressed by the ornate stained glass panels in the front doors. The door panels are original, but the transom containing the house number, although compatible with the door panels, is more recent.

The interior is distinguished by the elaborate plaster ornamentation throughout the house. The original gas fixtures in all the rooms are still in working order. Of particular interest in this house is the painted wood graining, which is new. In the dining room, each panel shows a different design. The spectacular marble walls in the bathrooms are also painted. The brass bed is a modern reproduction of a Victorian original.

735 Grove

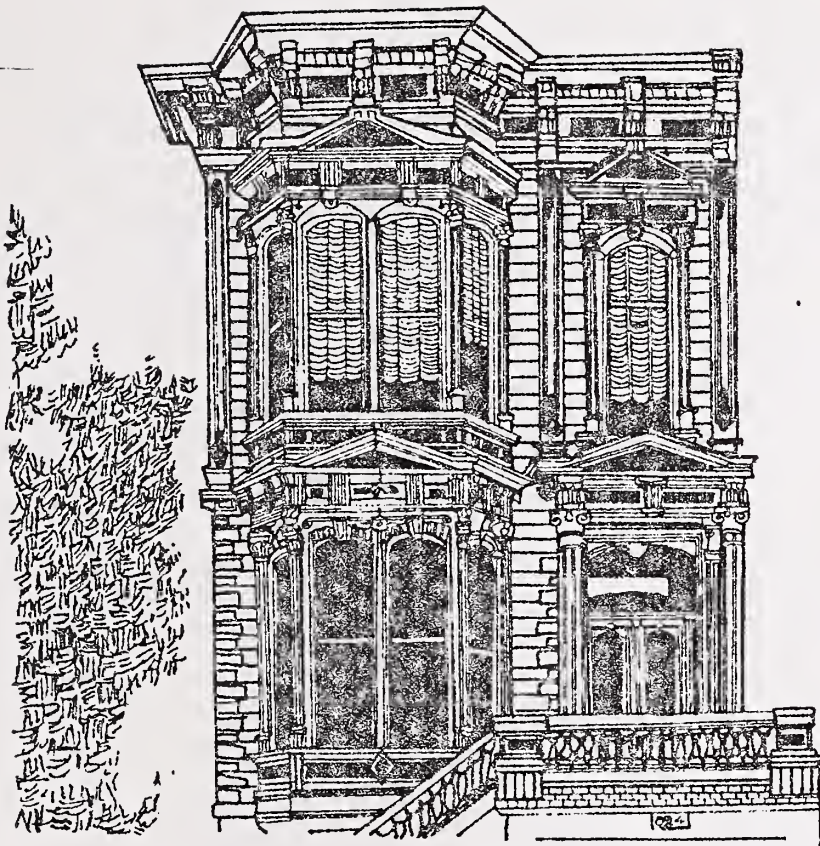


This double building was described as a four-family building in the Water Department documents when City water service was connected on December 4, 1884. In the application, the wash basins in the bedrooms were described as "roomers". R. W. Young is named as the applicant for water service, but George W. Young, a clerk in the U.S. Sub-

Treasury, is mentioned as occupying the building in the 1885 and 1886 City Directories. The building is also listed as 715 1/2 Grove Street.

The building is a simple house with its original duplex design. It has typically clean Eastlake lines with characteristics of earlier Italianate drum pediments and segmented arches. The present single entrance door to both units is most compatible with the original design of the structure.

Please notice the wood carvings over the second story windows. In an age of skillfully mass-produced woodwork, hand carving of the type which is found on this building is a rarity, which demonstrates the money which was spent on the details of this relatively simple structure.



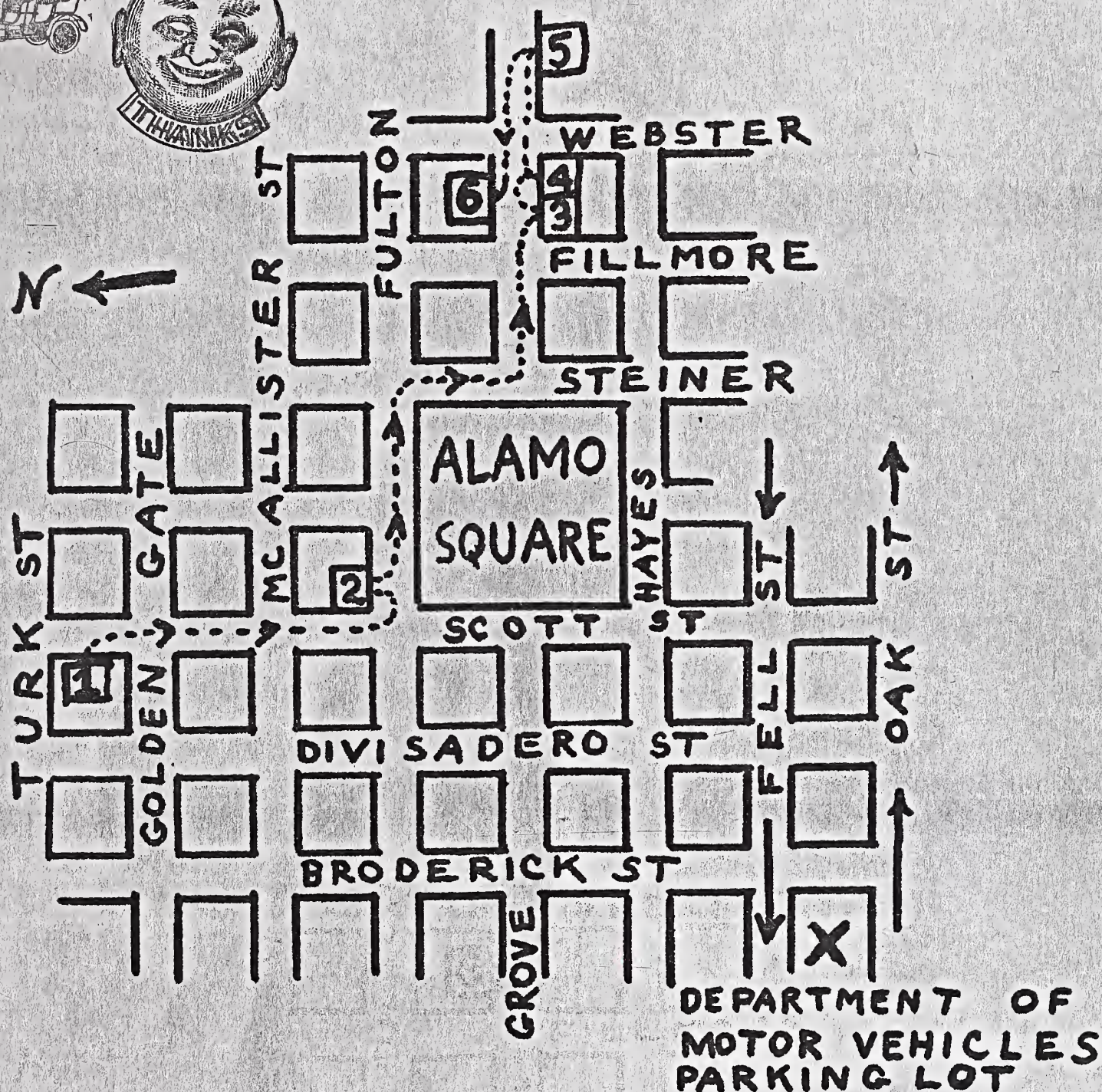
Henry Brune, of Naber, Alfs & Brune (Phoenix Bourbon Whiskey Co.) employed Henry Geilfuss to design and construct this house in 1886. Water service began in 1886. The Brune family lived here from 1886 through 1906, when, after the fire, they moved to Ross. The family was listed in the San Francisco Blue Book of Society as being "at home" Tuesdays.

When intervening owners sold the house in the early 1950's, it became the Antioch

Baptist Church for over ten years, the ballroom being used as the church. The minister lived on the main floor and the second floor was used as a flat, then a rooming house. The project of the church to rip off the front of the house and combine the basement and first floor into a new church auditorium was fought by irate neighbors, and the building was bought and then resold to its present owner.

The architecture is basically Italianate with some Eastlake in the exterior decoration. The interior, with its 15-foot ceilings and classical Greek and Roman woodwork, has a grand scale. The double drawing room is divided by columns with Corinthian capitals; the dining room extends the full width of the house and is dominated by a monumental sideboard. The smaller morning room has an adjoining conservatory which has been re-designed to provide an entryway and light for a small apartment in the former servants' quarters.

The five bedrooms on the second floor take advantage of every usable square foot of space. The main bathroom has its original fixtures (with new copper piping). The house was very modern for its time, with coal-burning central heating; electric starters for the gas lights and bell and speaking tube systems. The front porch was changed in 1972 to incorporate garage, deck and new front stairs.



11045	SCOTT	4	813 GROVE
21198	FULTON	5	735 GROVE
3825	GROVE	6	824 GROVE

FOLLOW THE SCENIC ROUTE HOUSE TO HOUSE

